FILED

MAN 1 1 2010

N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

JOHN J. HOFFMAN
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY
Division of Law
124 Halsey Street, 5th Floor
P.O. Box 45029
Newark, New Jersey 07101
Attorney for the Board of Nursing

By: Barbara J.K. Lopez
Deputy Attorney General
(973) 648-7454

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF :

Administrative Action

PAUL GIBSON, RN License No. 26NO12135400

CONSENT ORDER

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (the "Board") upon receipt of information indicating that Paul Gibson, RN ("Respondent") worked as a nurse in New Jersey while his license to practice was suspended. By Final Order of Discipline filed on May 5, 2014, Respondent's license to practice nursing was suspended due to his failure to cooperate with a Board investigation about his September 2013 criminal arrest. Respondent visited the Board's office on September 2, 2014 and advised that he had not notified the Board

of his change of address, had not received any mail from the Board, and did not know that his license had been suspended.

Respondent petitioned for reinstatement of his suspended license. He addressed all issues from the Final Order of Discipline filed on May 5, 2014 and demonstrated completion of required continuing education. On October 30, 2014, he completed an application to reinstate a lapsed license which included an employment certification. Respondent certified that he had not worked as a nurse while his license was suspended -- even though he did not know that his license was suspended -- and that he stopped working on May 10, 2014.

While the Board was considering Respondent's petition and an Order of Reinstatement was being drafted, Respondent called the Board office and the Board's attorney multiple times in an effort to rush the process. On December 22, 2014, an Order of Reinstatement was about to be filed when the Board received information from On Time Ambulance, reporting that Respondent had worked as a nurse for them from March 2014 through December 19, 2014 when they learned of his suspension. Respondent's employment was subsequently terminated for failing to notify his employer of a Board action and for working while his license was suspended.

The Board finds that Respondent's work as a Registered Professional Nurse during the entire time that his license was suspended constitutes the unlicensed practice of nursing in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:11-37 and 45:1-25. Additionally, the Board finds that Respondent engaged in the practice of deception and dishonesty pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b) by certifying that he had not worked as a nurse while his license was suspended and by failing to disclose his ongoing employment with On Time Ambulance.

The parties agreeing to resolve this matter, and the Board finding that the within Order is sufficiently protective of the public health, safety and welfare, in lieu of further proceedings, and for other good cause shown;

IT IS on this What of January HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED that:

- Respondent's license to practice is suspended for a minimum period of six months, however, he shall receive credit for time he stopped practicing after December 2014. Respondent's license may now be reinstated after Board review and approval of a completed application, and payment of all civil penalties herein imposed.
 - Respondent is hereby reprimanded for engaging in the 2. Page 3 of 5

unlicensed practice of nursing in New Jersey while his license to practice was suspended and for his violation of $\underline{\text{N.J.S.A.}}$ 45:1-21(b).

- 3. Respondent is hereby assessed a civil penalty in the total amount of one thousand two hundred and fifty dollars (\$1250) for the violation of N.J.S.A. 45:11-37 and 45:1-25 and 45:1-21(b). Payment shall be made by certified check, bank cashier check, or money order payable to "State of New Jersey," or by wire transfer, direct deposit, or credit card payment delivered or mailed to State Board of Nursing, Attention: Leslie Burgos, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Any other form of payment will be rejected and will be returned to the party making the payment. Payment shall be submitted simultaneously with this signed Order.
- 4. The Board will not accept any application for reinstatement of Respondent's license unless and until Respondent pays the full civil penalty herein imposed.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:

Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN

Board President

Page 4 of 5

I have read and understand the within Consent Order and agree to be bound by its terms.

PAUL GIBSÓN, RN